

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So we have before us a bill that would authorize the creation of new judgeships, but they will not take effect this year, but next year in July I think is the date.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Um-huh, that's right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And is that...oh, you mentioned that there are budgetary reasons for doing that, or did you?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Well, there's two reasons. One is that...or that's one of the reasons, sure, that it can be included in the next budget cycle. But rather than putting it on this year and creating additional expenses here we wait until...so it goes through and can be included in the next budget that's submitted to the Appropriations Committee and comes through the Legislature next year.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, there were some of you earlier today who were wondering why I withdrew my attempt to strike Senator Lindsay's amendment that dealt with these additional juvenile judges, and I stated it earlier in my opening, but I'll mention it again. All that I wanted to do with this amendment that I'm offering now, and the earlier amendment went beyond it, is to remove the new judge for Douglas County. You have heard the discussion in which we engaged wherein Senators Matzke and Wickersham pointed out why caseload figures ought not be the basis on which we make these decisions. Their argument was that those figures are not reliable, they do not tell the whole story. I would like you to apply that same argument to what we're dealing with in terms of these juvenile court judges that are to be added. Actually, there's one additional judge should be added in Douglas County. Senator Lindsay's amendment dealt with other counties, too. My amendment would only strike Douglas County. Senator Hall, this morning, had made a response to an example I gave of having pediatricians, first you had two, both of whom were competent, one of them lost competency, a third one was added. My concern was with the children who would have to go to that pediatrician who no longer was competent. If you add five new juvenile court judges, you haven't shielded the juveniles who will come before the judge with whom I have so much lack of respect for in terms of the job being done. Let me ask Senator Lindsay a question.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Lindsay.